

Easter 2015 Newsletter



"But greater still, the calm assurance: this child can face uncertain days because He lives." Bill Gaither



New Year, New Faces – A Word From The Project Manager

It is always a joy to be greeted by the bright, happy, smiling, faces of the 90 students at ICCS. New grade one students are settling in well with their teacher, Mrs Kakweji Masuwa. Last year's grade ones have moved up to grade two with their much loved teacher, Mrs Sharon Ngoma. Grade threes have a new teacher, Miss Bertha Musanda. We are very thankful for the sponsorship of Elizabeth Shanzi, who is now studying Secondary Teaching at a college in Chingola (although we miss having her at school). Mwaba Chola (caretaker) and Grace Mwale (social worker) are still with us, and Grace's workload has now increased from two to four days a week. Building work is due to begin in the middle of the year, and the goal is to move into our new premises at the beginning of September (term three), 2015. I am very much looking forward to my upcoming trip to Australia, and hope to catch up with many of you while I'm there (from early April to early June). I still have a few spots available to do presentations about our work here in Zambia, so please let me know if your church / business / club / youth group / school / other organisation would be willing to hear from us.

Kim Mukuka, Project Manager



UPDATE FROM MANYANDO COMMUNITY SCHOOL (MCS)

The new school year opened in January and it is always an exciting period as we welcome new students, especially the grade ones. There is much to catch up with and many stories to hear when the children return from their holidays!

Blessed to Bless Project Manager, Kim Mukuka, introduced MCS to a Kitwe based lady Maxine Callow and from the word go she has hit the ground running, raising assistance and awareness for the school. She made a generous donation of school requisites, footballs and a bag of clothing.

Maxine has also organised for the school building to have a facelift. The school was last painted in 2010 by Barclays Bank Zambia as part of their corporate social responsibility. Since then it has not been painted and some people have even put graffiti on the school walls. Rendering work on the school building (including replacing the old spoon drain with a new one) has already been completed, and currently painting is underway.

In a few days' time the school will have a fresh new look! Praise God for He is faithful!!

Meki Mwape, MCS Headmaster



CURRENT NEEDS

Can you assist with any of the needs listed below? Partial sponsorships also welcome.

- 1. A 4WD vehicle is urgently needed for Blessed to Bless in Zambia. The current vehicle is on its last legs (just!) and really no longer able to do long-distance trips. The estimated budget for this is \$18,000 to \$23,000.
- 2. A further \$100,000 is required for the stage one building project to be completed. Thank you to all who have contributed so far, at this stage the project will go ahead with stage 1A until further funding is received.
- 3. ICCS caretaker's salary \$160 per month
- 4. ICCS social worker's salary \$260 + per month
- 5. Guard's salary \$140 per month
- 6. Project manager's expenses (fuel, internet, phone) \$220 per month
- 7. MCS water rates \$60 per month
- 8. 6 more secondary students requiring sponsorships (\$420 for basic sponsorship, \$470 for sponsorship plus payable monthly or quarterly, but to be completed by December 2015)
- 9. Sponsorship of tertiary students (trades / college) please contact Ros Philips for more information

Thank you for your support. Please pray for the work of Blessed to Bless, for the Zambian children and families supported through this work, for God's continuing provision, and that as many needs as possible will be met.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

For further information or alternate payment methods for either of these events, please contact Ros Philips on 9144 5452 / 0407 175 422 or <u>blessedtoblessaustralia@gmail.com</u>.



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2015 FUNDRAISING TO DATE

The **<u>Bunnings Valentine's Bake Sale</u>** held on Saturday 14th February was a great success, with approximately \$1300 raised. Thank you to all the wonderful helpers who baked, delivered goods and helped out at the stall on the day.

The <u>Movie Night</u> held on Thursday 5th March had a turn-out of well over 100 people and about \$1500 was raised from this event. Thank you to all those who attended, or assisted in various ways with this event.





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